

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims 1-22:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing prepaid card transactions comprising:
issuing, by a prepaid card issuer, a multiplicity of prepaid cards, each bearing prepaid card identification indicia;
inputting the prepaid card identification indicia of a prepaid card into a point of sale terminal;
communicating said prepaid card identification indicia from the point of sale terminal to a remote server to validate said prepaid card; and
following receipt of acceptable validation from said remote server, processing a prepaid card transaction as a credit card transaction employing a credit card account of ~~associated with~~ said prepaid card issuer, which credit card account is identified by a credit card number which is different from said identification indicia of said prepaid card.
2. (Previously Presented) A method for processing prepaid card transactions according to claim 1 and wherein said processing a prepaid card transaction includes:
charging said credit card account, identified by said credit card number, for the amount of said prepaid card transaction.
3. (Previously Presented) A method for processing prepaid card transactions according to claim 2 and wherein said credit card account is charged for the amount of prepaid card transactions of at least a plurality of said multiplicity of prepaid cards.
4. (Previously Presented) A method for processing prepaid card transactions according to claim 2 and wherein said credit card number is stored at said point of sale terminal.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for processing prepaid card transactions according to claim 4 and wherein said credit card number is accessed at said point of sale terminal using said prepaid card identification indicia.

6. (Previously Presented) A method for processing prepaid card transactions according to claim 2 and wherein said credit card number is stored at said remote server.

7. (Previously Presented) A method for processing prepaid card transactions according to claim 6 and wherein said credit card number is accessed at said remote server using said prepaid card identification indicia.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 and wherein said inputting comprises reading said prepaid card identification indicia.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 and wherein said inputting comprises keying in said prepaid card identification indicia.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 1 and wherein said acceptable validation comprises balance information.

11. (Currently Amended) A point of sale terminal comprising:

an input device operative to receive prepaid card identification indicia from a prepaid card issued by a prepaid card issuer; and

a processor, operative to identify a credit card number associated with a credit card account ~~of associated with~~ said prepaid card issuer, which credit card number which is different from said prepaid card identification indicia.

12. (Original) A point of sale terminal according to claim 11 and wherein said input device is a card reader.

13. (Original) A point of sale terminal according to claim 11 and wherein said input device is a keyboard.

14. (Previously Presented) A point of sale terminal according to claim 11 and wherein said processor is operative to verify acceptable validity of said prepaid card identification indicia prior to processing said prepaid card transaction.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) A point of sale terminal according to claim 11 and also comprising a communicator, operative to communicate said prepaid card identification indicia to a remote server to determine validity of said prepaid card.

17. (Original) A point of sale terminal according to claim 16 and wherein said remote server is operative to communicate a balance in said prepaid card, via said communicator, to said terminal.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A point of sale terminal according to claim 11 and also comprising a storage device for storing said credit card number.

20. (Previously Presented) A point of sale terminal according to claim 11 and wherein said point of sale terminal receives said credit card number from a remote server.

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21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 and also comprising identifying said credit card number by accessing a lookup table based on said prepaid card identification indicia.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7 and also comprising identifying said credit card number by accessing a lookup table based on said prepaid card identification indicia.